



EXTERIOR The decorative verandah and facade of this Federation house in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs has been restored and painted Dulux Surfmist. **ENTRANCE** Old meets new at the entrance, where a pivot door by Estalis lends a contemporary look to the heritage facade. Path in Hampton Quartz random cobblestones, GatherCo. Oak floorboards in Wheat Fields, Royal Oak Floors.

FAMILY *haven*

A young couple swap life in the dark for a sun-drenched, dreamy renovation of their Federation home in Sydney's east.

STORY *Judy Pascoe* | STYLING *Olga Lewis* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Prue Ruscoe*

“Part of the brief was for a neutral palette as a backdrop, with colour injected via furniture and finishes.”

IMOGENE POTTER, ARCHITECT

LIVING Walls painted Dulux Natural White. Curtains in Designs of the Time 'Guaran' linen in YP20003. 'Feathertop' sofa, and Kett 'Forrest' outdoor lounge setting, all Cosh Living. 'Duke' cushions in Ocean, Jardan. Tulipán floor lamp by Isabel Moncada, Adorno. 'Yoko' coffee table in Oak, Ellison Studios. Aspect 1 sculpture on coffee table by Caroline Duffy, Curatorial+Co. 'Silhouette' rug, Kvadrat. KITCHEN 'Onu Duo' pendant light, Sabu Studio. Benchtop in Sareva quartzite, Artedomus. J'Jute tray, Dunlin.



With its flat, north-to-rear block of land this two-storey, Federation-era home in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs offered plenty of scope for the willing buyers, Jonathan and Olivia. Its attractive Queen Anne-style features added to its desirability, as did the favourable location close to Centennial Park, and the couple could foresee a happy future in the home for themselves and their children, now aged five and one.

The house was large with multiple rooms but the floorplan and interior design were tired and dated and sections of the original structure were degraded. Jonathan comments wryly, "Both our mothers were horrified at what we had bought!" No surprise then that the couple were keen to get the renovation process underway and decided not to move in after settlement.

Instead they stayed in their former property and engaged architects Imogene Potter and Simon Wilson of Potter Wilson for the sweeping makeover.

One of the stand-out features was a bell-cast apron on the two-storey verandah at the front of the house that originally would have been clad in shingles. However, over the years the cladding had been replaced by timber boards and the entire shape altered by enclosing the downstairs area. This became the starting point for the architects' design, says Imogene, "to reveal the original turn-of-the-century structure and reinstate the shingled verandah".

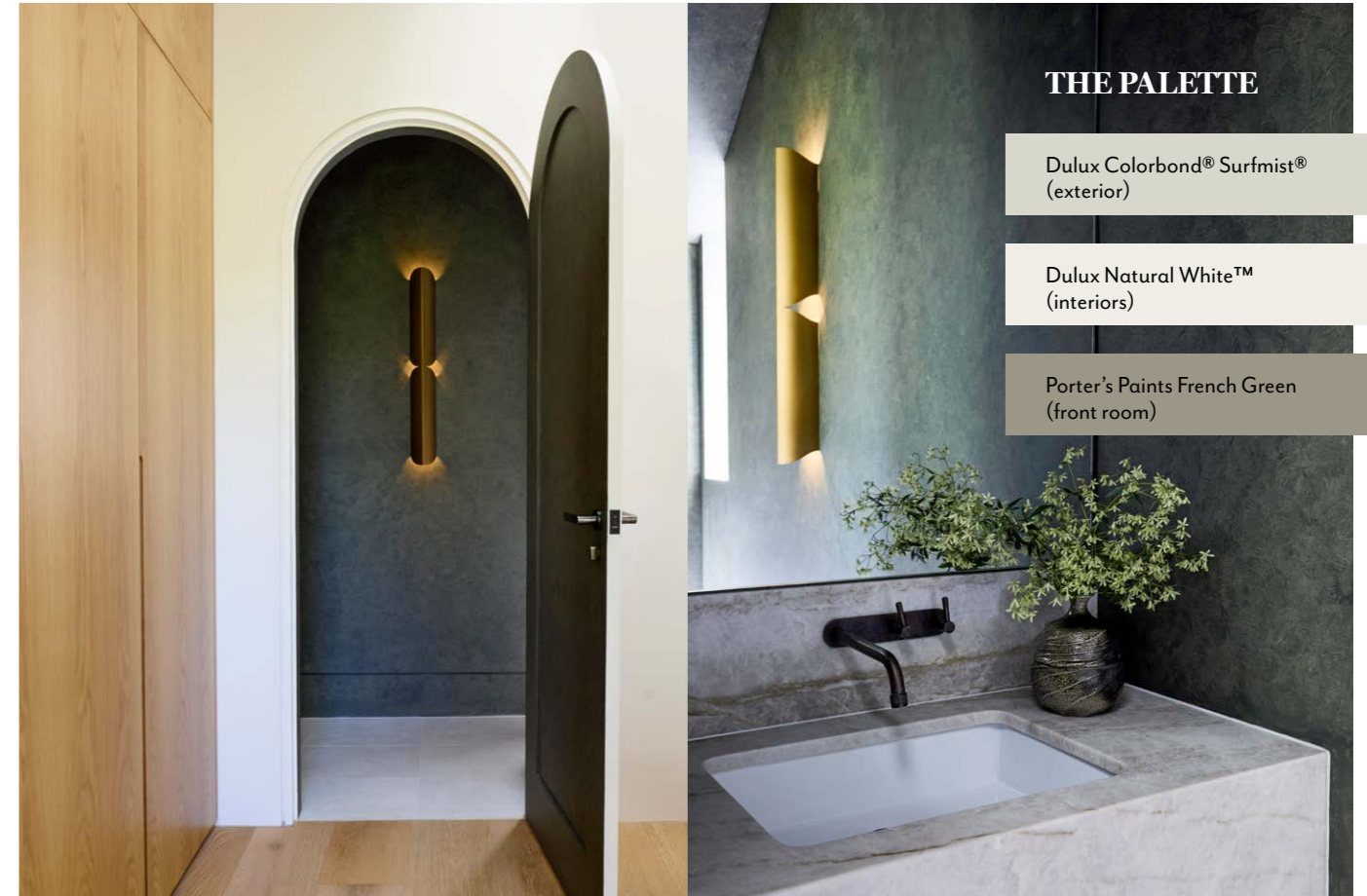
In addition to restoring the home's handsome facade, the architects conceived a dynamic contemporary extension at the rear, acting as the new family living, dining and kitchen area, a pertinent response to the couple's desire for a bright and airy home connected to the garden and pool. ▶



LIVING/DINING Sofa and chairs, Cosh Living. Cushions, Jardan. Coffee table, Ellison Studios. Sculpture by Caroline Duffy. Rug, Kvadrat. Blind in Dedar 'John Kelly 1763' fabric. Pendant light, Sabu Studio. Custom table by Timbermill with inlaid tiles from Onsite.
KITCHEN Joinery in Dulux Natural White and American oak veneer, Nu Space. Benchtops in Sareva quartzite, Artedomus. Pendant light, Sabu Studio. Sculpture by Emma Lindegaard, Curatorial+Co. Large vessel, Mercer & Lewis. Artwork by John Baird.



HALLWAY *Blue Day* artwork by John Baird. Disderot lamp, Dunlin. Red ceramic by Joseph Turrin, The DEA Store. Blind in Dedar 'John Kelly 1763' fabric. Oak floorboards in Wheat Fields, Royal Oak Floors. **POWDER ROOM** *Opposite, top* Walls painted Porter's Paints French Wash in Antiquity with Olive Grove base. Vanity in Sareva quartzite, Artedomus. 'Yokato' tapware, Brodware. 'Double Leaf' wall sconce, Daniel Boddam. **FRONT ROOM** *Opposite, below* Walls painted Porter's Paints French Green. 'Nina' modular sofa, Jordan. Vintage Vitra 'Noguchi' coffee table. Vase, The DEA Store. Wall lights, Oko Olo. Oi Soi Oi light fittings, Tigmi Trading. *Wilderness* artwork by Marion Abraham. Moroccan Beni Souf rug, Loom.



THE PALETTE

Dulux Colorbond® Surfmist®
(exterior)

Dulux Natural White™
(interiors)

Porter's Paints French Green
(front room)

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



“The original bell-cast form was a catalyst for the way the new rear addition was detailed,” says Imogene. “The bell-cast ‘kick’ of the verandah was reinterpreted with the roof design over the bedroom in the extension and the cladding detail near the entry.”

Imogene says the new addition respects the restored front part of the house, and enhances the original features without obscuring or distorting them.

A formal living room now occupies the front of the house on the ground level and leads to the reinstated open verandah. Behind, an organically curved staircase forms part of the entrance, flooded with natural light from a judiciously placed skylight. Upstairs, the main bedroom and sitting area overlook the back garden, with privacy ensured due to a lushly greened planter box that edges the sliding doors. Three other bedrooms are on this level, with one utilised as a study.

The family living area downstairs segues seamlessly through large sliding doors into the garden designed by Dangar Barin Smith. “The aluminium door frames are minimalist and recessed into the ceiling and floor to minimise their intrusion into the space,” says Imogene.

As the couple had lived in a dark terrace for many years they were looking forward to a light-filled home. “Part of the brief was for a neutral palette as a backdrop with colour injected via furniture and finishes,” says Imogene. Oak flooring and quartzite stone ticked the box for softly hued, natural materials.

Dulux Natural White was used throughout the interior for a fresh finish while in the older part of the house a darker shade, Porter’s Paints French Green, was selected as a contrast and to create the ambience of a more intimate environment. The exterior was painted a soft white, Dulux Colorbond Surfemist, to unite the old and new, allowing the various materials - timber, brickwork, shingles, stone and metal - to become textural elements.

With rear-lane access, the double garage bookends the property with the studio above set up as a work-from-home space, but it can double as guest accommodation also, kitted out with a bathroom and enjoying a serene outlook to the treetops.

The home perfectly unites functionality and luxury, providing the family with a secluded, sun-drenched haven. “The recurring comment we hear from friends and family is that the house feels like you’re on holiday,” says Jonathan. “With all the palm trees in the garden and the pool it really does have a very relaxed vibe.” ▶

Potter&Wilson: potterandwilson.com. **Dangar Barin Smith:** dangarbarinmith.com.au. **Estalis:** Estalis.com.au.

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JONATHAN, OWNER

BEDROOM Walls painted Peter Lewis Paints Hippie Generation with an old stone scumble glaze finish. Curtain in Designs of the Time ‘Guarani’ linen in YP20008. *Stage Fright* tapestry by Georgia Bisley, Curatorial+Co. ‘Isola’ side table, Ellison Studios. Vase, Rudi Rocket. ‘Lola’ curved sofa, and cushions, all Jardan. Bedcover, The Bespoke Linen Co. Society Limonta pillowcases, Ondene. ‘Bohan’ lamp and ‘Yuuki’ side table in Stainless Steel, both Rachel Donath. Custom bedhead. Rug, Loom.

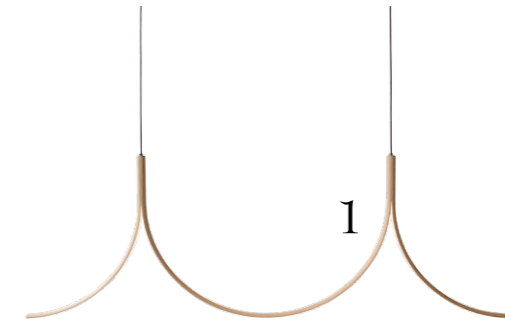
THIS IS THE LIFE

After years spent living in a dark terrace, Olivia and Jonathan love the natural light that streams into their new home through skylights and windows that capture views of the landscape. "It's a relaxed space where we welcome our family and friends," says Jonathan. "The outdoor area is a sanctuary with the pool, lush green lawns and dappled light beneath the palm and olive trees."

OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING Dangar Barin Smith designed a lush garden to complement the house. Kett 'Forrest' outdoor lounge setting, Cosh Living. **LIVING** Sofa and chairs, Cosh Living. Cushions, Jardan. Tulipán floor lamp by Isabel Moncada, Adorno. Coffee table, Ellison Studios. Sculpture by Caroline Duffy. Rug, Kvadrat. Pendant lights, Sabu Studio. Custom dining table, Timbermill. **KITCHEN** Joinery in Dulux Natural White and in American oak veneer, Nu Space. Benchtops in Sareva quartzite, Artedomus.



POOL AREA The studio above the garage overlooks the pool, surrounded by the lush garden by Dangar Barin Smith. External walls painted Dulux Surfmist.



THE SOURCE

Embrace the movement towards lived-in interiors, collecting retro-style finds in interesting shapes and warm tones.



Produced by Bethan Lacoba.

1 'Onu Duo' pendant light, POA, Sabu Studio. 2 Kristalia 'Brioni' sofa, POA, Fanuli. 3 'Elements' rug in Green (300x200cm), \$2349, Freedom. 4 McMullin 'Ivy' vase, \$129, Life Interiors. 5 'Murphy' counter stool in Mushroom, \$129, Freedom. 6 Plantino 'Regal' engineered oak flooring in Eiger, POA, Choices Flooring. 7 'Cloud II' marble sculpture, \$690, Rachel Donath. 8 'Yoko Capsule' coffee table in Oak, \$2399, Ellison Studios. 9 Hello I'm Awake Now artwork by Diana Miller, \$7800, Curatorial+Co. 10 Disderot floor and table lamp, \$4698, Dunlin. H&G